

# The Lake Riley Launch

March 2015

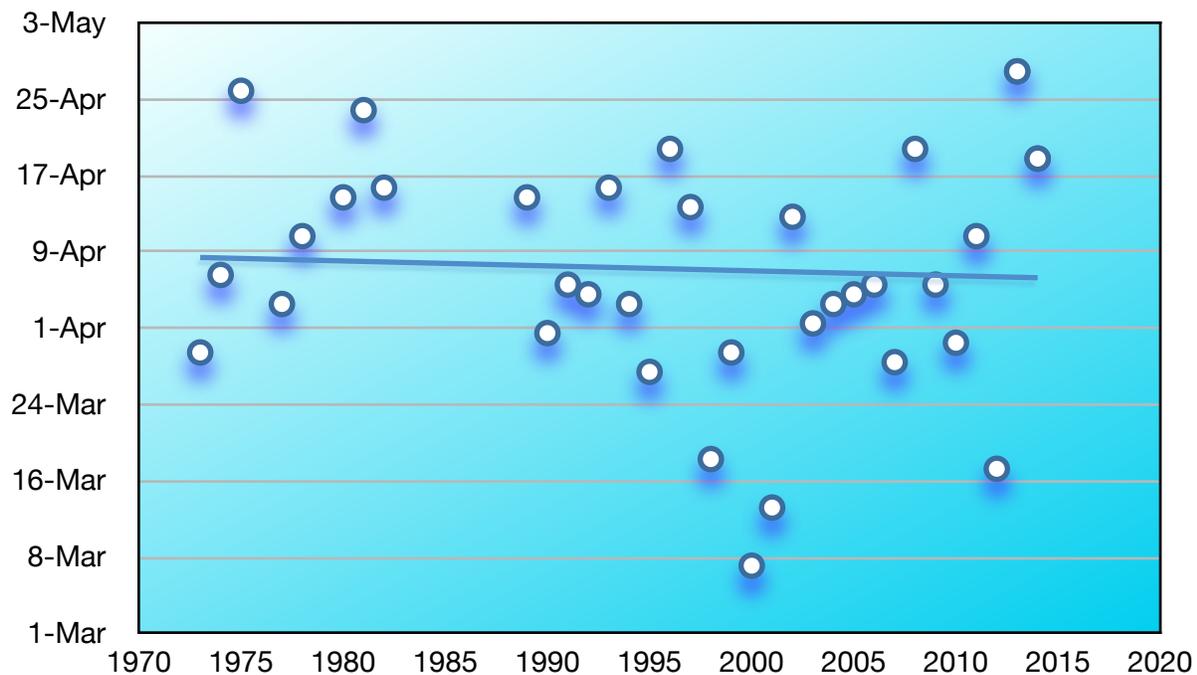
*An email newsletter for  
Lake Riley Improvement Association Members*

## Lake Dates.

**The 2015 Lake Riley Improvement Association (LRIA) annual meeting will be held on Monday, April 27th from 7-9 p.m.** It will be held again at the Chanhassen American Legion, 290 Lake Drive East, Chanhassen, MN 55317. Come for an informal social hour of dinner with your Lake Riley neighbors beforehand at 5:30 p.m. It is a fine thing to reconnect with your lake neighbors in the spring.

It's Ice-Out Time! It's always exciting to watch the changing texture and color of the ice as it thins out in the spring. Although we've had very late ice-outs the last two years - last year was April 19 - the graph below shows that historically it has often occurred around the beginning of April. We're getting close.

**Lake Riley Iceout Dates**



**Mussel Detection Sleuths Wanted.** The LRIA received this request this week from Michelle Jordan, Water Quality and Outreach Coordinator for our Watershed District. It is a simple request and an opportunity for us to help out:

*"The Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District has launched a new volunteer invasive mussel monitoring program called Adopt A Dock. We are looking for up to two volunteers in each lake to host mussel detection plates at their docks, and check them twice a month to monitor for invasive mussels.... Please pass this along to community members on your lake. We already have three volunteers signed up, which is quite exciting. Thanks so much for your help."*

You can reach Michelle for more information at 952-607-6481.

**Don't Move A Mussel!** How do mussels hitch a ride? By contaminating watercraft and equipment from infected waters. Small mussels on exposed surfaces feel like sandpaper to the touch. If you are considering purchasing a used boat lift, dock, boat, motor, or swim raft - please note that Minnesota State Laws have changed:

1. Any lakeshore equipment being transported between bodies of water MUST stay out of the water for at least 21 days.
2. It is illegal to move equipment with Aquatic Invasive Species present between lakes.
3. Any company moving lakeshore equipment must be permitted by the DNR. Here is a link to currently permitted providers:

<http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/permits/lsp/lsp-permits.pdf>

Please see [http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/summary\\_ais\\_laws\\_2012.pdf](http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/summary_ais_laws_2012.pdf) for more details. Help Keep Our Lakes Mussel-Free!

-Shared by the Lotus Lake Conservation Alliance (LLCA) [www.lotuslakeca.org](http://www.lotuslakeca.org)

**Time To Use Your Eagle Eyes.** Not only do the loons and ducks return to open water in the spring, the eagles do too. On March 15th, the DNR reported [the bald eagles are on spring migration back to Minnesota](#). Welcome back!

Also keep on the lookout for an otter that has been spotted around our lake this spring. According to the [DNR River Otter information](#), they're common in northern Minnesota and have been making a comeback in the southern part of the state. "*Otters eat a variety of small aquatic organisms such as fish, clams, muskrats, and turtles. They can also catch terrestrial mammals such as chipmunks, mice, and young rabbits.*" I bet they're as anxious for ice-out as we are.



This e-newsletter is planned for publication in March, June, September and December.  
If you have questions, comments or ideas about this bulletin - or if you need to add or update an email address - please contact Anne Florenzano at 952-937-5354 or [anneflorenzano@gmail.com](mailto:anneflorenzano@gmail.com)